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REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, QUESTIONS RELATING TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

International Conference on Central American Refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/1 of 7 October 1987, 42/110 of 7 December 1987, 42/204 of 11 December 1987, 42/231 of 12 May 1988, 43/118 of 8 December 1988, 44/139 of 15 December 1989, 45/141 of 14 December 1990, and 46/107 of 16 December 1991,

Recalling also that the International Conference on Central American Refugees is related to the initiative of the Central American Presidents expressed in the procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America concluded at the Esquipulas II summit meeting 1/ in August 1987, as indicated in the San Salvador communiqué on the Central American refugees, of 9 September 1988, 2/

1/ A/42/521-S/19085, annex; see Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1987, document S/19085.

2/ A/C.3/43/6, annex.

Recognizing the importance and validity of the Declaration and the Concerted Plan of Action in favour of Central American Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons, adopted at the International Conference on Central American Refugees held at Guatemala City from 29 to 31 May 1989 3/ and the Declaration of the First International Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the Conference, 4/ especially the framework contained in the Concerted Plan of Action,

Noting with satisfaction the concerted efforts being made by the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico to find lasting solutions to the problems of the refugees, returnees and displaced persons in implementing the aims and objectives of the Concerted Plan of Action as an integral part of efforts to achieve a stable and lasting peace and democratization of the region,

Welcoming the peace agreements achieved in the peace process in El Salvador, whereby efforts are being made to consult with all national sectors, the peace dialogue in Guatemala and the progress being made in Nicaragua in the implementation of its national reconciliation policy and in assistance to the uprooted populations, which continues to encourage movements of voluntary repatriation and settlement of internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the substantial support that, inter alia, the Secretary-General, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme, the donor community and national and international non-governmental organizations have given the Conference since its inception,

Taking note of the communiqué of the Second International Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the Conference, held at Managua, Nicaragua, on 29 September 1992,

Convinced that peace, liberty, development and democracy are essential in order to solve the problems of uprooted populations in the region,

1. Takes note of the reports submitted by the Secretary-General 5/ and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 6/ and of the second progress report on the implementation of the Concerted Plan of Action of the International Conference on Central American Refugees;

3/ See A/44/527 and Corr.1, annex.

4/ C/REICA/CS/90/10.

5/ A/47/364.

6/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/47/12), paras. 161-164; and ibid., Supplement No. 12A (A/47/12/Add.1), para. 28.

2. Welcomes with satisfaction the outcome of the meetings of the Follow-Up Committee of the International Conference on Central American Refugees, held at San José on 2 and 3 April 1991, at San Pedro Sula, Honduras, from 17 to 19 June 1991, at Tegucigalpa on 13 and 14 August 1991, at Managua on 25 and 26 October 1991, at San Salvador on 7 and 8 April 1992, and at Managua on 28 September and 28 October 1992;

3. Urges the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico to continue to implement and follow up the programmes benefiting refugees, returnees and displaced persons in accordance with their national development plans;

4. Reaffirms its conviction that the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons to their countries or communities of origin is one of the most positive signs of the progress of peace in the region;

5. Expresses its conviction that the processes of return to and reintegration in the countries and communities of origin should take place in conditions of dignity and security and with the necessary guarantees to ensure that the affected populations are included in the respective national development plans;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and other organs of the United Nations system to continue their support for and involvement in the planning, implementation, evaluation and follow-up of the programmes generated through the Conference process;

7. Supports the Governments of the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico in urgently seeking more precise details about the support to be provided by the United Nations Development Programme in the immediate future, once the emergency stage has been completed, with the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and once the transition towards a process of sustained development of the target populations has been initiated, within the framework of the Conference;

8. Welcomes with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the Development Programme for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Repatriated Persons, and urges the Central American countries to continue their determined support to ensure that the Programme achieves its aims;

9. Appeals to the international community, particularly to the donor community, to continue and to strengthen their support for the Conference and to continue complying with the financing offered so as to be able effectively to achieve the goals and objectives of the Concerted Plan of Action, and to consolidate the progress made thus far in humanitarian assistance to refugees and repatriated and displaced persons of the region;

10. Supports the special attention that the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico are giving to the particular needs of refugee, repatriated and displaced women and children and to the measures being adopted to protect and improve the environment and to preserve ethnic and cultural values;

11. Resolves to give its full support to the Declaration of the Second International Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the International Conference on Central American Refugees, held at San Salvador on 7 and 8 April 1992 and at Managua on 29 September and 28 October 1992;

12. Supports the initiative of the Governments of the countries of Central America, Belize and Mexico to extend the duration of the Conference process until May 1994 in the light of the new needs that have emerged following the changes in the region;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.